

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 /081 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4221

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7729

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, EFIN, EAID, CG

SUBJECT: BISENGIMANA REITERATES CONCERN ABOUT POL SHORTAGE

REF: KINSHASA 7154

1. BISENGIMANA CALLED AGAIN THIS MORNING AND REQUESTED
I COME OVER. WE DISCUSSED SEVERAL THINGS, BUT HIS
MAIN CONCERN WAS THE PROSPECTIVE SHORTAGE OF POL PRODUCTS.
HE MENTIONED DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE CLOSURE OF
LOBITIO. HE THEN STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE ALGERIANS HAD
RECENTLY LOADED A TANKER, THE ARABS ARE EXERTING PRESSURE
TO HAVE ZAIRE VOTE FOR THE EXPULSION OF ISRAEL AT THE LIMA
MEETING. BISENGIMANA STATED THAT ZAIRE WOULD NOT SUBMIT
TO SUCH LINKAGE (CHANTAGE) BUT ADDED THAT SOMEHOW ZAIRE
MUST FIND A WAY TO GET FROM UNDER THE PROBLEM OF A
PROSPECTIVE FUEL SHORTAGE.

2. BISENGIMANA THEN ASKED "WHEN IS WILLIAMS COMING?"
I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD SENT A CABLE YESTERDAY REPORTING
HIS CONVERSATION BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY. I
MENTIONED THAT I HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT BISENGIMANA
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HAD SOMEHOW FELT THAT MOBIL HAD GIVEN AN ULTIMATUM TO THE

GOZ THAT THEY MUST REACH AN AGREEMENT ON COMPENSATION FOR THEIR NATIONALIZED PROPERTIES BEFORE THEY WOULD CONSIDER AN AGREEMENT TO FURNISH POL. I STATED THAT I HAD DISCUSSED THIS WITH MOBIL REPRESENTATIVES WHO ASSURED ME THAT ALTHOUGH THEY REGARDED COMPENSATION AS BEING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, THEY IN NO WAY HAD INTENDED TO ISSUE AN ULTIMATUM TO THE GOZ. BISENGIMANA REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD AND STATED THAT WHEN WILLIAMS COMES, HE SHOULD THEREFORE CONDUCT TALKS WITH HIM PERSONALLY. HE STATED THAT JUNIOR OFFICIALS COULD NOT ALWAYS UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITIES OR ALL THE IMPLICATIONS OF A PROBLEM.

3. COMMENT: BISENGIMANA DID EVERYTHING BUT SAY THAT SOMEHOW THE GOZ WOULD FIND A WAY TO GIVE SOME TYPE OF COMPENSATION TO MOBIL IN RETURN FOR POL SUPPLIES. OF COURSE I CANNOT PROMISE THAT HE WILL ACTUALLY DO SO WHEN WILLIMAS ARRIVES, BUT THE SITUATION CERTAINLY APPEARS A GREAT DEAL MORE PROMISING THAN WAS THE CASE DURING WILLIAMS' PREVIOUS VISIT.

WALKER

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Message Attributes

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